

NOTE ON A NEW ROTIFER, "LIMNIAS CORNUELLA."

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(Read December 28th, 1888.)

PLATE XXIV.

On one of my visits to my favourite hunting ground, the Gardens of the Royal Botanic Society in Regent's Park, on the 21st November last, I came across a *Limnias* attached to the rootlets of a plant (*Triana Bogotensis*) growing on the surface of one of the hot-house tanks, which appears to be undescribed and new to science.

Its aspect as a whole is very striking, and differs markedly from the two known species of the genus, viz., *Limnias Ceratophylli* and *L. Annulatus*. I happened to have both these in my aquarium at the time, so that I was able to compare them with my specimen.

I have named the new species *Limnias Cornuella* on account of the shape of the tube, which looks very much like a "little horn."

The accompanying figures will give a good idea of the general appearance, and the following is a description of its principal characters.

The tube is much smaller than in the two other species, being only about half the size. It is white, glassy transparent at both extremities, but in the middle rendered more or less opaque by a granular deposit, and ringed like the tube of *L. annulatus*, but not quite so distinctly. The tube is always gracefully curved or twisted, very rarely, if ever, straight, widening very gradually from the point of attachment to the mouth. It consists of a thin, tough, horny material, and can be pressed quite flat without breaking.

The most striking character of the animal is its two long ventral antennæ, surmounted by tufts of long setæ. In *L. ceratophylli* the antennæ are hardly visible; in *L. annulatus* they are short and stumpy, but in the present species they are nearly

three times as long, non-retractile, and always standing out prominently and projecting beyond the disc. The ciliary disc is two-lobed, and when expanded it generally lies in a plain at right angles to the tube, not parallel with it, as is the case in the two other species. The animal does not protrude far out of his tube. It has a prominent ciliated chin, and two pairs of minute horny processes are seen on the dorsal side of the head.

The mastax and internal organization are normal as far as I have been able to see, but the rotifer is rather opaque, and it is difficult to make out much of the structure. Size of tube, $\frac{1}{60}$ th to $\frac{1}{50}$ th inch.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE XXIV.

- FIG. 11. *Limnias cornuella* expanded; view from dorsal side \times 180.
,, 12. Head of same, ventral aspect \times 200.
,, 13. ,, ,, dorsal aspect \times 200.
,, 14. Various forms of tubes \times 60.
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